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Alzheimer's Orange County postpones annual gala

Out of an abundance of caution because of concerns brought on by the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, Alzheimer's Orange County ("AlzOC") announced that the nonprofit organization will postpone its annual fundraising gala, which had been set for March 21. The event is now set for August 22 at the Balboa Bay Club and will be combined with its annual 2020 Visionary Women's Luncheon.

"We highly value the well-being and health of our community and have since early January been tracking the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, putting into place recommended policies to protect the health and safety of our participants, staff, volunteers and friends," AlzOC's CEO and President Jim McAleer said.

"We have decided to postpone the gala after recent governmental recommendations and warnings issued by the CDC and California Public Health Department. The spread of the virus and its potential impact on the community, particularly older adults, is not something we can ignore or underestimate. After consultation with our executive board members, community leaders and staff, we feel this is the only responsible course of action."

The gala co-chairs, the 2020 gala committee, staff and volunteers hope those planning to attend will join them on the new date to celebrate the organization's life-changing programs and services. AlzOC will reach out to registered guests to see if they prefer to leave their donation with the organization and attend the August 22 gala, or want to have their gift refunded.

"Thank you for your incredible and generous support of our services and programs that are vital to our community," McAleer said. "Though we will miss the opportunity to see you all this month, we look forward to continuing our valued partnership that augments the positive impact we can have on so many others."

Contact Jim.mcaleer@alzoc.org or Margie.wright@alzoc.org with any questions.

Alzheimer's Orange County is located at 2515 McCabe, Suite 200, Irvine. For more information, visit www.alzoc.org.